



Ward Notification

Tucson Fire Department

Fire Chief Patrick Kelly



Contact: Captain Trish Tracy
(520) 410-1901 Pager

Date: July 18, 2009

Ward 5 – Near Drowning – 6200 Block of South Campbell Avenue

July 18, 2009

Dispatch Time – 1939

On-Scene Time – 1945

A 2-year-old boy was in an apartment complex pool area at a birthday party when this near drowning occurred. There were approximately 60 people in that pool area, including tenants from the apartment complex and visitors for the birthday party. Two teenagers, who were swimming in the pool, noticed the boy sinking to the bottom with his head submerged. They pulled him out of the water. A family member began CPR. The boy started breathing on his own prior to paramedics arriving on scene. He was transported to a hospital for observation.

There were many adults around the pool area when the boy started sinking to the bottom of the pool. His mother was sitting on the side of the pool talking with relatives and watching him. She lost sight of him for less than 30 seconds.

There have been 3 drowning incidents so far this year.
This is the 13th near-drowning for 2009.

Safety Message: Drowning is 100% preventable! Constant adult supervision is the best way to prevent this tragedy from happening. Ten of the 13 near drowning incidents this year happened when one or more adults were in the pool area with the children, and the child was out of their site for less than two minutes. To prevent a lapse of supervision, have a Designated Child Watcher. This person's sole responsibility is to watch everyone in the pool, similar to the role of a lifeguard. Talking to someone on the phone or to someone in the pool area is enough of a distraction that could cause result in a child quietly slipping under the water.

To obtain a "Designated Child Watcher Tag" call (520) 837-7075.